

Climate Action, Adaptation, and Resiliency Plan (CAARP)

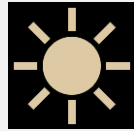
Town of Amherst, MA

June 21, 2021

Agenda

- Developing the Plan
- Plan Summary
- Next Steps & Implementation

Process Recap and Timeline



Summer/Fall 2020: Task Groups

Principles
Actions
Priorities



Winter 2020-21: Research and Synthesis

Task Group Input
ToA Plans
Best Practices



Spring 2021: Stakeholder Review

ECAC
ToA Staff
Task Groups



Spring/Summer 2021: Next Steps

May 13 Written feedback due
June 21 Final report to TC
July - Beyond Implementation!

Developing the Plan

1. Amherst's Climate Goals

- **25%** below 2016 levels by 2025
- **50%** below 2016 levels by 2030
- **Carbon neutrality** compared to 2016 levels by 2050

Developing the Plan

1. Amherst's Climate Goals

- 25% below 2016 levels by 2025
- 50% below 2016 levels by 2030
- Carbon neutrality compared to 2016 levels by 2050

2. Plan Principles

- **Equity, Accessibility, and Belonging**
- **Racial and Climate Justice**
- **Local Wealth Creation and Fair Distribution**
- **Community Involvement and Connections**

Developing the Plan

1. Amherst's Climate Goals

- 25% below 2016 levels by 2025
- 50% below 2016 levels by 2030
- Carbon neutrality compared to 2016 levels by 2050

2. Plan Principles

- Equity, Accessibility, and Belonging
- Racial and Climate Justice
- Local Wealth Creation and Fair Distribution
- Community Involvement and Connections

Evaluating Strategies for Action

- **Emissions and Costs**
- **Equity and Resilience**
- **Leaders, Partners, Existing Resources**
- **Metrics, Milestones, Readiness**

CAARP Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Developing the Plan
- 3. Roadmap to 2025**
- 4. Beyond 2025**
5. State and Federal Advocacy and Collaboration
6. Implementation Matrix

Roadmap Emissions

Goal: 25% below 2016 levels by 2025 = ↓ 36,978 MTCO₂e

Estimated Roadmap reductions = ↓ 36,195 = 24.5%

Other Individual, State, and Federal = 783 MTCO₂e = 0.5%

- **What does this mean?**
- **This will touch everyone.** Sustained efforts over the long-term that transform existing systems and embed climate action into the fabric of life in Amherst and beyond are necessary to achieve a **just transition**.
- **Collaboration is essential.** The resilience and success of Amherst's community members, institutions, businesses, and ecosystems are interdependent and mutually reinforcing.
- **Amherst can't do this alone.** Actions at the individual, state, and federal levels will be important to enable the full range of emissions reduction and climate resilience strategies that Amherst can pursue.

Plan Sectors: Roadmap & Beyond 2025

Governance and Communications*

Buildings

Renewable Energy

Land Use and Natural Systems

Transportation and Infrastructure



Governance and Communications

- Enhancing Equity
- Increasing Participation
- Leading by Example



Governance and Communications

- **Roadmap to 2025**

- Center Equity in Planning and Decision-Making
- Execute Multilingual Municipal Communications
- Support Climate Action Outreach and Collaboration

- **Beyond 2025**

- Sustain Investments in Equitable Community Participation
- Support Universal Broadband Internet Access
- Institute Progressive Procurement Policies



Buildings

- Energy Efficiency
- Beneficial Electrification
- Affordability
- Quality of Life



Buildings

- **Roadmap to 2025**

- Continue to Lead on Affordable Housing
- Prioritize Multifamily Building Energy Retrofits
- Promote Single-Family Deep Energy Retrofits
- Institute Building Energy Benchmarking
- Adopt Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)
- Strengthen the Regional Economy and Workforce Development

- **Beyond 2025**

- Champion Resilient and Regenerative New Construction
- Implement Strategic Energy Management Planning
- Establish Building Energy Performance Standards
- Expand Community-Based Housing Ownership



Renewable Energy

- Decarbonizing Electricity
- Increasing Energy Resilience
- Supporting the Local Economy



Renewable Energy

- **Roadmap to 2025**
 - Transform Local Energy Through Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)
 - Encourage Responsible Local Solar Development
- **Beyond 2025**
 - Expand Resilient Renewable Energy Infrastructure
 - Enable Innovative Financing for Clean Energy Investments



Land Use and Natural Systems

- Growing Food Locally
- Good Stewardship Practices
- Balancing Competing Land Uses



Land Use and Natural Systems

- **Roadmap to 2025**
 - Increase Access to Green Space, Recreation, and Community Gardens
 - Expand the Mobile Market and Local Food Access
 - Balance Smart Growth and Conservation
- **Beyond 2025**
 - Facilitate Community Connections to Land
 - Foster a Coordinated Regional Food System
 - Encourage Climate-Beneficial Stewardship Practices



Transportation and Infrastructure

- Encouraging Mode-Shifting
- Decarbonizing Vehicles
- Achieving Zero Waste
- Preparing for Climate Impacts



Transportation and Infrastructure

- **Roadmap to 2025**

- Prioritize Transportation Safety and Accessibility
- Transition Rapidly to Zero-Emission Vehicles
- Develop Evidence-Based Zero Waste Policy

- **Beyond 2025**

- Develop a Robust Alternative Transportation Network
- Support Regional Transportation Demand Management
- Facilitate ZEV Car-Sharing at Apartment Complexes
- Mainstream Zero Waste Infrastructure and Programs
- Integrate Climate Adaptation and Water Resources Management
- Prepare Infrastructure for Climate and Community Resilience



CAARP Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Developing the Plan
3. Roadmap to 2025
4. Beyond 2025
5. State and Federal Advocacy and Collaboration
- 6. Implementation Matrix**

Implementation Matrix

SECTOR	STRATEGY	Town Program	Bylaw/ Regulation	Govern- ance	Advocacy	Public Outreach	Readiness	Cost	Carbon Mitigation Value
GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATIONS	Center Equity in Planning and Decision-Making			X		X	R	\$\$	N/A
	Execute Multilingual Municipal Communications	X				X	R	\$\$	N/A
	Support Climate Outreach and Collaboration					X	R	\$	N/A
BUILDINGS	Continue to Lead on Affordable Housing	X			X		R	\$	L
	Prioritize Multifamily Building Energy Retrofits	X				X	R	\$\$	M
	Promote Single-Family Deep Energy Retrofits	X				X	R	\$ to \$\$	M
	Institute Building Energy Benchmarking		X			X	R	\$\$	M
RENEWABLE ENERGY									H
									L
LAND USE AND NATURAL SYSTEMS									H
	Encourage Responsible Local Solar Developments	X					R	\$\$ to \$\$\$	M
	Increase Access to Green Space, Recreation, and Community gardens	X				X	R-RR	\$\$ to \$\$\$	N/A
	Expand the Mobile Market and Local Food Access	X				X	R	\$\$	L
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	Balance Smart Growth and Conservation	X			X		R	\$\$	L
	Prioritize Transportation Safety and Accessibility	X				X	RR-RRR	\$\$\$ to \$\$\$\$	M
	Transition Rapidly to Zero-Emission Vehicles	X	X		X		RR	\$\$\$ to \$\$\$\$	H
	Develop Evidence-Based Zero Waste Policy		X			X	R	\$ to \$\$	L

Next Steps

- Implementation will require action and collaboration from community members and all levels of government
- To start, we propose next steps for:
 - ECAC
 - Town Council
 - Town Manager

ECAC

- Education** *Continued public outreach & visioning to support carbon reductions by all.*
- Financing** *Develop new & innovative financing options, and raise awareness of existing financing opportunities to help property owners increase building energy efficiency and reduce emissions.*
- Local Energy** *Working with Pelham & Northampton, Amherst will soon be able to offer greener electricity options that benefit our local economy and support further carbon reductions.*
- Buildings** *Starting with rental buildings, we will establish a rating system, improvement plans, & pilot energy retrofits followed by energy benchmarking for commercial buildings and energy disclosures for residential buildings at time of sale.*
- Municipal Policy** *Work with the Town Manager to integrate greenhouse gas reduction strategies into all aspects of town operations especially procurement, facilities operation, maintenance, and vehicle fleets.*

Town Council

- Accept the CAARP
- Opt into Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program: a majority vote by the town council allows Amherst to access a financing program that facilitates renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements in commercial and industrial buildings
- Work with the Town Manager to provide guidance on the plan's implementation , specifically the Road Map to 2025
- Identify Town Council committees that ECAC should collaborate with to advance specific Road Map elements

Town Manager

- Research, with input from ECAC, a mechanism for town staff to collaborate with residents, ECAC and town council on implementation

Proposed Timeline

- July – October:
 - Town Manager , Town Council and ECAC collaborate on implementation plan for the Road Map
 - Town Manager and ECAC research implementation models and mechanisms for staff collaboration
 - ECAC continues to bring forward near term implementation elements to Town Manager for Town Council to consider
 - ECAC scopes out additional work plan based on 5 key areas
- November:
 - Town Manager presents plan to implement the Road Map, including ECAC, Town Staff, and Town Council
- December:
 - ECAC provides annual report detailing action plan and budget recommendations for 2022

Thank you!